

Written Testimony of Barbara J. Brown on H.B. 5415
House Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation
20 March 2012

Honorable Committee Members:

Introduction: My name is Barbara Brown. I am an attorney and recently retired from state service as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Michigan. I have also served as 92 District Court Judge for Mackinac and Luce Counties and as an Administrative Law Judge. I received a gubernatorial appointment to the Mackinac Bridge Authority in 2005 and currently serve as Vice-Chair of that Authority. Upon my retirement from state service in 2011, I returned to my home town of St. Ignace where I currently reside.

Purpose: I am writing today in support of HB 5415 which would create an advisory board within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to facilitate the reconstruction of a museum at the site of the Father Marquette National Memorial in St. Ignace, to advise the DNR and other appropriate authorities on the maintenance and expansion of the museum site, and identify sources of funding.

Brief History: As you may know, the first non-native settlements in what is now the State of Michigan were established in the eastern regions of the Upper Peninsula and the Straits of Mackinac. In 1671, a French Jesuit missionary and explorer Father Jacques Marquette established a mission at St. Ignace. The French also selected St. Ignace as the location for their first settlement at the Straits of Mackinac when they built Fort de Baude in 1683 in or near the current business district of St. Ignace. Between 1666 and 1675, Father Marquette lived among the Native Americans of the Great Lakes, learned their languages and explored the waters of the region including the Mississippi River which he helped map. Father Marquette died in 1675 and his remains were returned to St. Ignace where he is buried near the chapel of the mission he established.

National Memorial: The Father Marquette National Memorial honoring this great explorer of the North American continent was authorized in 1975 and constructed in St. Ignace on a south-facing ridge high above the Straits of Mackinac affording stunning and unparalleled views of the Straits and of the Mackinac Bridge. The 56 acre site is located in Straits State Park, owned and operated by the DNR, and is affiliated with the National Park Service. The site includes interpretive trails, an outdoor amphitheater, restroom facilities and, originally, a museum. Tragically, the museum burned to the ground in 2000 and has never been rebuilt.

Proposed Improvements and Development:

Museum Reconstruction: The primary purpose of the proposed advisory board is the reconstruction of the museum in order to tell the rich and varied history of the Straits region which includes the Native Americans, French explorers and settlers, European trappers and traders, commercial fishing, lumbering, commercial transportation by ship and later by rail, railroad and automobile ferries, the history of the Mackinac Bridge, tourism and recreation. *See*, letter dated March 12, 2009, from then Congressman Bart Stupak to Gov. Jennifer Granholm supporting the reconstruction of the museum.

Pedestrian Walkway: The Father Marquette National Memorial is situated in a portion of Straits State Park located on the west side of I-75 on a ridge above Bridge View Park. The remainder of Straits State Park, including the waterfront campground, is located on the east side of I-75. Therefore, these two magnificent outdoor attractions enjoyed by tourists and locals alike are separated by a four-lane interstate highway and the requisite on and off ramps of a traffic cloverleaf making access by foot or bicycle both difficult and dangerous. As early as the late 1950's, plans for a pedestrian walkway connecting the two sides of the park were discussed. *Inside Mackinac* by Dr. Eugene T. Petersen, p 52, 1990. The addition of a pedestrian/bicycle walkway would provide a source of recreation and access for visitors to the Marquette Memorial, Straits State Park, Bridge View Park, downtown St. Ignace, the North Country Trail and miles of shoreline to the west and north. *See*, letter dated March 12, 2009 from then Congressman Bart Stupak to Gov. Jennifer Granholm seeking funding for the construction of a pedestrian walkway over I-75.

Community Support: Resolutions of Support for the project have been adopted by the governing bodies of the City of St. Ignace, Mackinac County, and Moran Township. A written statement of support has been given by the Director of the St. Ignace Downtown Development Authority. The Mackinac Island State Park Commission authorized its Director to serve on a feasibility committee to study the development of the museum. Copies of each of these documents are attached for the information of the committee. In addition, I have had a recent conversation

with Mr. Keith Massaway, District 3 representative of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, who expressed his individual support for the creation of the advisory board. Mr. Massaway further stated that upon his return from vacation he will provide the Tribal Board with an update on our efforts relative to HB 5415.

Closing: Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information in support of HB 5415. The reconstruction of the museum will provide construction jobs, on-site employment, educational opportunities for school children, research opportunities for scholars, and year-round recreational opportunities for both local residents and visitors to the area. The site is currently used by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians for its annual Pow Pow and Rendezvous and is an excellent venue for concerts and other forms of entertainment. It is a critical component in the preservation and sharing of the history of the Straits of Mackinac and the State of Michigan as well as supporting the economy of the Straits area.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Barbara Brown
84 Prospect St.
St. Ignace, MI 49781
brownbj07@gmail.com
517-285-4424

Attachments:

Resolution of City of St. Ignace;
Resolution of Moran Township;
Resolution of Mackinac County;
Statement of St. Ignace DDA Director;
Minutes (partial) of Mackinac Island State Park Commission, 9/26/08;
Letters (2) dated March 12, 2009 from Congressman Bart Stupak to Gov. Granholm;
Inside Mackinac by Dr. Eugene T. Petersen, p 52 and cover.

FATHER MARQUETTE MUSEUM RESOLUTION**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
CITY OF ST. IGNACE**

WHEREAS, for centuries the Straits of Mackinac has been a gathering place for native Americans, missionaries, fur trappers and traders, lumbermen, fishermen, sailors and myriad travelers;

WHEREAS, a settlement was established at St. Ignace in 1671 by French Missionary Father Marquette;

WHEREAS, the historic communities of Mackinac Island, Mackinaw City and St. Ignace create a triangle of history at the Straits of Mackinac;

WHEREAS, the City of St. Ignace, home of the Mackinac Bridge, serves as a gateway to Michigan's Upper Peninsula and it's lower peninsula from the west;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial located in St. Ignace on a site overlooking the Straits of Mackinac, was once a vibrant park and museum attracting visitors from across the state and nation;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial museum was destroyed by fire on March 9, 2000 and was never replaced;

WHEREAS, the site of the Father Marquette National Memorial is currently owned by the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, tourism is a primary source of income in Michigan's Upper Peninsula;

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site and museum will increase tourism and complete the triangle of history at the Straits; and

WHEREAS, a committee is needed to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the Father Marquette National Memorial site;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Ignace supports the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site and museum and requests that the Governor appoint a committee to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the site.

IT IS RESOLVED;

MOTION BY: Mayor Grondin

SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Della-Moretta

YEAS: Councilmember Fullerton, Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson, Councilmembers LaLonde, Tamlyn-Massaway, Wyse, Mayor Grondin, Councilmember Della-Moretta.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

Resolution declared Adopted.

I hereby certify that the above Resolution is a true copy of a Resolution presented to the St. Ignace City Council for adoption at a regular meeting held Monday, December 1, 2008, at 8:00 p.m.


Renee Vonderwerth, City Clerk

MORAN TOWNSHIP
W1362 US-2 ~ P.O. BOX 364
ST. IGNACE, MI 49781
PHONE: (906) 643-8027 * FAX: (906) 643-7208

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
MORAN TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, for centuries the Straits of Mackinac has been a gathering place for native Americans, missionaries, fur trappers and traders, lumbermen, fishermen, sailors and myriad travelers;

WHEREAS, a settlement was established at St. Ignace in 1671 by French Missionary Father Marquette;

WHEREAS, the historic communities of Mackinac Island, Mackinaw City and St. Ignace create a triangle of history at the Straits of Mackinac;

WHEREAS, the Mackinac Bridge, located within Moran Township serves as a gateway to Michigan's Upper Peninsula;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial, located in Moran Township on a site overlooking the Straits of Mackinac, was once a vibrant park and museum attracting visitors from across the state and nation;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial was destroyed by fire on March 2000;

WHEREAS, the site of the Father Marquette National Memorial is currently owned by the State of Michigan;

WHEREAS, tourism is a primary source of income in Michigan's Upper Peninsula;

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site will increase tourism and complete the triangle of history at the Straits; and

WHEREAS, a committee is needed to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the Father Marquette National Memorial site;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Moran Township supports the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site and requests that the Governor appoint a committee to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the site.

Fax From StreamCenter


MAR-19-2012 11:11 FROM:

TO: 15173738429

P.8/17

YEAS: Supervisor Durm, Clerk Vallier, Treasurer Dionne and
Trustees Spencer and Heuer.
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

I, Kristine R. Vallier, Moran Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of resolution adopted by the Moran Township Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held on Wednesday, December 3, 200.



Kristine R. Vallier
Moran Township Clerk

7.

MACKINAC COUNTY CLERK

100 S. Marley Street Room 10
St. Ignace, Michigan 49781
(906) 643-7300

Fax: (906) 643-7302
TDD (800) 649-3777

MARY KAY TAMLYN
County Clerk
(906) 643-7301

LOU JOHNSTON
Chief Deputy Clerk
(906) 643-7349

CHRISTINE SCHLEHUBER
Deputy Circuit Court Clerk
(906) 643-7305

HILLARY KLEEMAN
Deputy Administrative Clerk
(906) 643-7300

**FATHER MARQUETTE MUSEUM RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT**

WHEREAS, for centuries the Straits of Mackinac has been a gathering place for native Americans, missionaries, fur trappers and traders, lumberman, fisherman, sailors and myriad travelers;

WHEREAS, a settlement was established at St. Ignace in 1671 by French Missionary Father Marquette;

WHEREAS, the historic communities of Mackinac Island, Mackinaw City and St. Ignace create a triangle of history at the Straits of Mackinac;

WHEREAS, The City of St. Ignace, home of the Mackinac Bridge, serves as a gateway to Michigan's Upper Peninsula and its lower peninsula from the west;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial located in St. Ignace on a site overlooking the Straits of Mackinac, was once a vibrant park and museum attracting visitors from across the state and nation;

WHEREAS, the Father Marquette National Memorial Museum was destroyed by fire on March 9, 2000 and was never replaced;

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WHEREAS, tourism is a primary source of income in Michigan's Upper Peninsula;

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site and museum will increase tourism and complete the triangle of history at the Straits; and

WHEREAS, a committee is needed to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the Father Marquette National Memorial site;

MAR-19-2012 11:11 FROM:

TO: 15173738429

P. 10/17

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Mackinac supports the redevelopment of the Father Marquette National Memorial site and museum and requests that the Governor appoint a committee to investigate the feasibility of redeveloping the site.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion by: Patrick

Supported by: McPhee

Yeas: Frazier, Leveille, McPhee, Patrick, Nelson

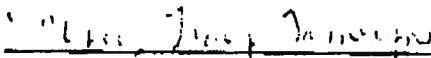
Nays: None

Absent: None

Dated: February 12, 2009


Dawn L. Nelson, Chairperson

I, Mary Kay Tamlyn, Clerk of the Mackinac County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted by the Mackinac County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on the 12th day of February, 2009.


Mary Kay Tamlyn, County Clerk

Print

Page 1 of 1

From: Debra Evashevski (dda@lighthouse.net)
To: brownbj07@sbcglobal.net
Date: Mon, January 11, 2010 11:20:27 AM
Subject: Pedestrian Bridge

Good Morning Barb – I have spoken with Father Jim twice in the past two days regarding the pedestrian bridge north of the toll booths. It is my understanding that there is a meeting in Lansing tomorrow where this project will be addressed. Father Jim asked me to relay the DDA support for this bridge. For DDA purposes, the pedestrian bridge will fit in nicely with the North Huron Scenic Pathway (NHSP) concept since that pathway will begin at the Straits State Park, travel down to the downtown area and then north. The pedestrian bridge will offer a link to the west of the I-75 to carry the pathway further into Moran Twp. and essentially draw even more people into our downtown district. For safety purposes and for economic development purposes this pedestrian bridge could offer another essential component to the NHSP. Father Jim also asked me to let you know that he will be calling you this afternoon. If there is anything further that you need from me at this point, please let me know. I believe that Eric is on his way to Lansing already and plans on attending tomorrow's meeting. On another note, thank you for your support for the grocery store project – It is pretty exciting! Deb

Debra Evashevski, Director
St. Ignace Downtown Development Authority
396 North State Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781

Phone: 906-643-8252
Fax: 906-643-9393
email: dda@lighthouse.net

10.

Minutes of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission meeting of September 26, 2008, Post Hospital Administration Building Board Room, Mackinac Island.

PRESENT: Frank J. Kelley, Chairman
Dennis O. Cawthorne
Barry J. Goodman
Richard A. Manoogian
Laurie A. Stupak
Jim Williams

ABSENT: Karen Karam

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Porter, Director; Sheryl Baxter, Executive Assistant; Steve Brisson, Chief Curator; Gregory Hokans, Chief of Development and Marketing; Jolene Priest, Public Relations and Marketing Officer; John Scherbarth, Office of Attorney General; Ryan Schlehuber, *St. Ignace News*; Armand "Smi" Horn, City of Mackinac Island Mayor Pro Tem; Paul Grondin, St. Ignace Mayor; Leanne Brodeur, Barbara Brown, Prentiss Brown, Ollie Boynton, Eric Dodson, James Durm, Kitty Hannabass, Audrey Jaggi, Trish Martin, Mary McIntire, Alice Myron, Frank Pompa, Bill Porter, Lornie Porter, Steve Rilenge, James C. Smith, Lorna Strauss

Chairman Kelley called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. A call of the roll confirmed a quorum present.

CALL TO ORDER

Moved by Commissioner Stupak, supported by Commissioner Williams, to approve the July 25, 2008 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Director Porter presented the director's report a copy of which was included in the Commission packet.

**DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

The Mackinac Horseman's Association has constructed a perimeter fence and riding ring at their leasehold on state park property along British Landing Road across from Wawashkamo Golf Course. The ring has been used by local residents for schooling horses, workshops and lessons. Steve Rilenge displayed a picture of the riding arena which is made of ancient beach sand. A kick-off party at The Pines is planned thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Manoogian.

**MACKINAC
HORSEMAN'S
ASSOCIATION**

Assistant Attorney General John Scherbarth reported there has not been any further news on the bike accident nor the slip and fall.

**ATTORNEY
GENERAL
REPORT**

Moved by Commissioner Cawthorne, supported by Commissioner Williams, to adopt the proposed 2009 General Admission Policy, effective January 1, 2009, as presented and to authorize the director to reduce the charge for the Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park *Adventure Tour* from \$7.00 to \$5.00 if the new price causes attendance to drop. Motion carried. [Document attached.]

**ADMISSION
FEE POLICY**

MAR-19-2012 11:12 FROM:

TO: 15173738429

P.13/17

Moved by Commissioner Stupak, supported by Commissioner Cawthorne, to authorize Director Porter to serve on a broad-based feasibility committee spearheaded by the citizens of St. Ignace to study the idea of developing a museum/learning center in St. Ignace on the property northwest of the Mackinac Bridge. Motion carried.

**ST. IGNACE
COLLABORATION**

The Mackinac Island Community Foundation Environmental Committee requested the Commission to adopt a short-range and a long-range forest management plan to protect the Mackinac Island forest from non-native species, e.g. Norway Maples. Moved by Commissioner Manoogian, supported by Commissioner Williams, to authorize Director Porter to create a planning team consisting of staff, concerned citizens and forestry experts, to address the issue. Motion carried.

**MACKINAC
ISLAND
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION,
NORWAY MAPLES**

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Laurie A. Stupak, Secretary

APPROVED:

Frank J. Kelley, Chairman

BART STUPAK
1st District, Michigan202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building
Wayne, MI 48091-2201Phone: (313) 235-1735
Fax: (313) 235-1744http://www.house.gov/stupak
stupa@house.govSault Ste. Marie - Chief of Staff
East Lansing - District Director*Congress of the United States*
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2201**COMMITTEE:**
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**SUBCOMMITTEES:**
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
CHAIRMAN**TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET**
ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP:**
LAW ENFORCEMENT CAUCUS Co-Chair
NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS Co-Chair**RURAL CAUCUS****ASSISTANT WHIP**

March 12, 2009

*Museum*Governor Jennifer Granholm
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Granholm:

I am writing in strong support of needed improvements at Straits State Park and Father Marquette National Memorial in St. Ignace. I am urging your support for funding to help enhance one of the most visited areas of our state. I am also working to identify federal funding that might be available to assist.

The Father Marquette National Memorial helps tell the story of a 17th-century missionary and explorer who established Michigan's earliest European settlements at Sault Ste. Marie in 1668 and St. Ignace 1671. Sault Ste. Marie is considered the third-oldest European settlement in America. Father Marquette is recognized as one of the great North American explorers.

The decision was made in 1975 to create a memorial honoring Father Marquette in the area of Straits State Park west of I-75. The memorial and museum opened in 1980, along with interpretive trails. In 2000, the museum was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. I seek your support for state funding to reconstruct this building.

Thank you for your consideration of this improvement to this historical treasure that is also a frequently visited region of our state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

BART STUPAK
Member of Congress

BTS/ne

cc: State Senator Jason Allen
State Representative Gary McDowell
Judge Barbara Brown

Please Reply To:

1. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	2. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	3. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	4. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	5. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	6. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	7. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov	8. [] Mr. Stupak, 202 Riverchase Drive, Office Building, Wayne, MI 48091-2201, Phone: (313) 235-1735, Fax: (313) 235-1744, Email: stupa@house.gov
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DISTRICT DIRECTOR, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2201

13.

Fax From StreamCenter

MAR-19-2012 11:13 FROM:

BART STUPAK
U.S. House of Representatives*Congress of the United States*
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2201COMMITTEE
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
ENERGY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET
ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
ELECTRICITY DELIVERY
LAW ENFORCEMENT MATTERS TO CHAIR
NORTHWESTERN BORDER AFFAIRS TO CHAIR
RURAL CAREERS
ASSISTANT WHIPU.S. House of Representatives, Room 2101
Washington, DC 20515-2201Phone: (202) 225-3739
Fax: (202) 225-4740E-mail: stupa@house.gov
<http://www.house.gov/stupak>U.S. House of Representatives, Office in State
1000 Renaissance Drive, Suite 1000

March 12, 2009

Walkway

Governor Jennifer Granholm
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Granholm:

I am writing in strong support of needed improvements at Straits State Park and Father Marquette National Memorial in St. Ignace. I am urging your support for funding to help enhance one of the most visited areas of our state. I am also working to identify federal funding that might be available to assist.

During construction of the Mackinac Bridge in the mid-1950s the road was routed through Straits State Park, which has existed since 1924. At that time there was a hope and understanding that a pedestrian bridge would be constructed over the road, connecting the newly separated sections of the park. Again in 1975, when creation of the Father Marquette National Memorial was authorized, a decision was made to construct a pedestrian bridge to connect the two areas of the park.

To date, no pedestrian bridge has been constructed over I-75 to link the two areas of the park. I seek your support for state funding to deliver on a half-century old promise by the state of Michigan to construct a pedestrian bridge to join the two sections of Straits State Park and Father Marquette National Memorial.

Thank you for your consideration of this improvement to this historical treasure that is also a frequently visited region of our state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

BART STUPAK
Member of Congress

BFS/nc

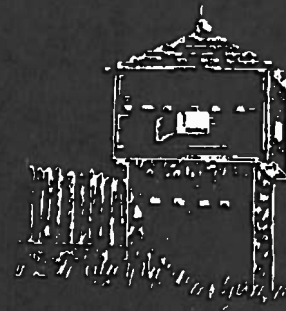
Cc: State Senator Jason Allen
State Representative Gary McDowell
Judge Barbara Brown

Please Reply To:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVESDistrict Office, 1000 Renaissance Drive, Suite 1000
Lansing, Michigan 48909

14.

INSIDE MACKINAC



Eugene T. Petersen

52 • INSIDE MACKINAC

and, after a thorough examination by archaeologists, reconstruct it. It also seemed logical to tell the missionary story, given Marquette's mission, his role in discovery of the Mississippi river, and his presumed burial in St. Ignace. This could be done in an interpretive museum. I pointed out to Woodfill that the Commission had no property in St. Ignace, but that didn't deter him, and he decided we would tour the area.

Accompanied by his chauffeur, we took an afternoon ferry to Mackinaw City and picked up his limousine at the Standard Oil garage. As we proceeded north across the bridge to St. Ignace, Woodfill pointed out a large area of land including a high bluff west of the toll plaza. This was a ninety-acre parcel owned by the State Highway Department which he believed we could get from them. Directly across the I-75 bridge approach was the sixty-acre Straits State Park, administered by the Department of Conservation, which he thought might be added to the parcel. To join the two he envisioned a pedestrian walkway across the highway. I could tell he had already given the proposed project a lot of thought. He ordered his chauffeur to park the car along the beach, and we spent the next hour exploring the bluff and considering remarkable vistas of the bridge and Lower Peninsula stretching out before us.

To use this immensely valuable property for historical interpretation was an interesting concept, but I told him I couldn't get very excited about building a fort replica when so many original Island buildings needed restoration and when the Commission already owned the site of Fort Michilimackinac at Mackinaw City. However he brushed off these observations and said that, when I got around to researching Fort de Buade, he hoped I would find the stockade walls had been at least thirty feet high so they could be clearly seen from the highway.

In typical Woodfill fashion the St. Ignace project moved along quickly. He kept me informed of his negotiations with the Mackinac Bridge Authority and Conservation Department to give us the acreage and seemed to be making good progress. He had support in the Commission to float another bond issue. I didn't have the time to research de Buade but he talked to Dr. May and Dr. Beeson and asked them to send him copies of any historical documents relating to the 17th-century site they could find. When the *St. Ignace Republican News* raised some questions about the Commission's inter-

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